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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

This publication provides a periodic review of internal security in underdeveloped countries where there is a threat from Communist-supported insurgency.

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
Office of Current Intelligence

State Department review completed

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REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

This publication provides a periodic review of internal security in underdeveloped countries where there is a threat from Communist-supported insurgency.

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OCI No. 0570/65

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
29 June 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Review of Insurgency Problems

1. Congo (Leopoldville)

The government continues slowly to mop up the remaining scattered rebel groups. The previously expected forays into the Congo from the Maridi area in the Sudan have not occurred.

In the northeast, government units based in Buta are now patrolling 25 miles in all directions without meeting rebel resistance. Armed patrols between Stanleyville and Buta are also meeting less rebel harassment with each successive trip. The units at Buta, which recently rescued 19 more hostages in the "maquis" jungle southwest of Buta, now are organizing an operation 60 miles farther west against the rebel bands at Aketi.

Government forces are also extending their hold along the banks of the Congo downriver from Stanleyville. Barge trains continue to arrive at Stanleyville without being harassed along the way. Farther west, the government has augmented its small force around Boende, in preparation for clearing operations into the vast rebel-infested region from Stanleyville west to Boende on the south bank of the Congo River.

With the rebellion disintegrating in the northeast, the rebel stronghold at Fizi will soon become the government's major target. At the western edge of the Fizi territory, ANC units from Kasongo are continuing to advance against demoralized rebels who apparently are trying to escape into a jungled and mountainous sanctuary farther north. North of Fizi, ANC units in Uvira recently beat off rebel groups harassing that town and its port. South of

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Fizi, ANC elements which hold the strategic Lulimba crossroads protecting Albertville were reportedly under attack earlier this week,

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Government T-28s and B-26s continue to operate over this area.

There is some evidence of renewed rebel activity around the Beni area, north of Lake Edward near the Uganda border, but the significance of this is not yet apparent. (Map)

2. Laos

Scattered fighting has been reported in various areas of Laos during the past week. In the north, government-supported guerrilla forces have been rebuffed in their attempts to capture several Communist-held positions near Vien Phou Kha, southwest of the Pathet Lao strongpoint at Nam Tha. To the east of Nam Tha, other friendly guerrilla units have stepped up their operations against Pathet Lao hill positions. North of the Plaine des Jarres, limited patrolling actions and light skirmishes between government and Communist forces continue to be noted along Route 6. In south Laos, meanwhile, government forces engaged in a clearing operation north of Route 9 encountered stiff resistance as they moved near to key Communist positions.

3. Cyprus

Members of the Turkish Cypriot community are increasingly hopeful that the current Greek-Turkish dialogue will bring about a Cyprus solution. While some Turkish Cypriots want to emigrate from the island, the great majority apparently are prepared to hold on until an acceptable settlement is achieved. Living conditions for many Turkish Cypriot refugees are deplorable but, after 18 months under such conditions, the refugees are showing a remarkable ability to adjust to physical hardships.

The US Embassy in Nicosia warns that Turkey may not be able to ensure Turkish Cypriot compliance with the terms of a Cyprus settlement between Athens

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and Ankara. If such an agreement involved enosis and the removal of all Turkish troops from Cyprus--possibly in exchange for territorial compensation in Thrace--Turkish Cypriot leaders might denounce the settlement as a "sellout" and decide to fight on alone. In that event, it appears unlikely the government in Ankara could impose the solution in the face of probable domestic reactions in Turkey.

4. Ethiopia

Rebel guerrillas in Ethiopia's restive northern province of Eritrea scored a significant success on 16 June by killing a provincial police chief and an assistant in an ambush. The victim was the highest ranking police officer to be killed so far. He was reputed to be the only officer able to control the security situation in the Keren area, one of three areas of more intense rebel activity. Ethiopian officials believe this incident presages the beginning of the offensive which the Eritrean Liberation Movement guerrillas have said they would undertake during the rainy season now beginning. According to the rebels, such an offensive would include assassinations of high government officials, destruction of bridges, establishment of road blocks, and the bombing of government offices and installations.

Ethiopian Government forces have reported in recent months that bands of rebels have increased in size from about 30 to over 100 men, with an estimated total of 700 active in western Eritrea. Ethiopian estimates usually run high, but there has probably been a significant increase. The rebels have more arms and some probably are better trained than previously.

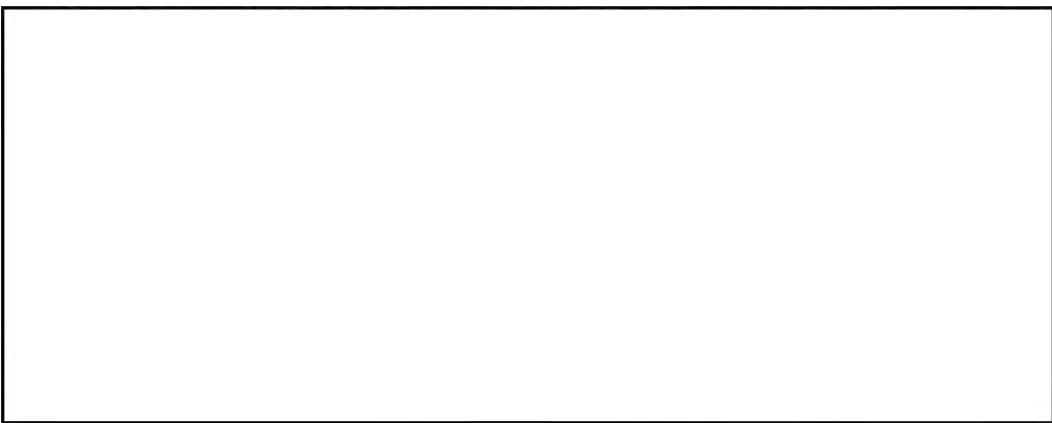
The governor general of Eritrea has approved and ordered executed effective 1 July a defense plan to counter the anticipated increase in rebel activity. This, together with scheduled police and army reinforcements, should compensate for the annual tendency of rebel guerrillas, as well as mere bandits, to operate more freely during the summer rains, which inhibit road communications and isolate some areas of the country.

5. Colombia

According to Minister of War General Gabriel Rebeiz Pizarro, the armed forces have cleared the central and western mountain ranges of guerrillas who had dominated the regions of Marquetalia, Guayabero, and El Pato. He added that the notorious Communist guerrilla leader "Tiro Fijo" and his men had abandoned the Marquetalia region. Similar statements have been made by the military in the past, but as yet there is no hard information to confirm them.

6. Ecuador

The attempted revolt on 28 June by a small group of noncommissioned officers at an army garrison in El Oro Province quickly failed and the instigators have been arrested. The government claims that this action was related solely to military pay and other personal grievances, which previously have inspired unrest, but not to the point of rebellion. The military junta in mid-1964 alleviated unrest by decreeing some pay and other improvements for military personnel, and may now consider additional action. Some reports, however, have suggested that anti-junta political plotters may have inspired this incident or may seek to use it to spark more widespread disturbances. Civilian elements opposing the ruling military junta are threatening to hold demonstrations in Quito and Guayaquil on 9 July. They hope to pressure the regime into speeding up the selection of a civilian president now scheduled for mid-1966.



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8. Peru

There has been no further contact between Civil Guard units and guerrillas of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) in Peru's central region during the past week. A police search operation, however, has recovered seven cases of dynamite and some ammunition. Five peasants, accused of collaborating with the guerrillas, also have been arrested.

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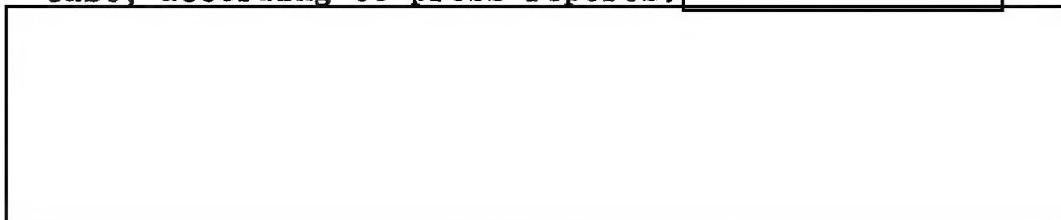


9. Venezuela

Guerrilla activities in western Venezuela have recently been more noticeable than in the east, according to press reports.

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Guerilla activity in western Venezuela has heretofore been confined to the states of Lara, Trujillo, Falcon, and Portuguesa.

In Trujillo State, two guerrillas were reportedly killed in a clash with army troops on 13 June. On 15 June, armed clashes were reported in Falcon State, where government forces have overrun four guerrilla encampments since 14 June. On 12 June official Venezuelan sources claimed that 63 guerrillas have been killed and 84 arrested as a result of antiguerrilla operations in Lara State. This claim is probably exaggerated. The only guerrilla activity reported in eastern Venezuela was a clash with army troops in Sucre State on 11 June. There was one guerrilla casualty. (Map)

10. British Guiana

The Burnham government on 25 June arrested three top leaders of Cheddi Jagan's pro-Communist People's Progressive Party (PPP) in connection with the bombing of the US Consulate.]

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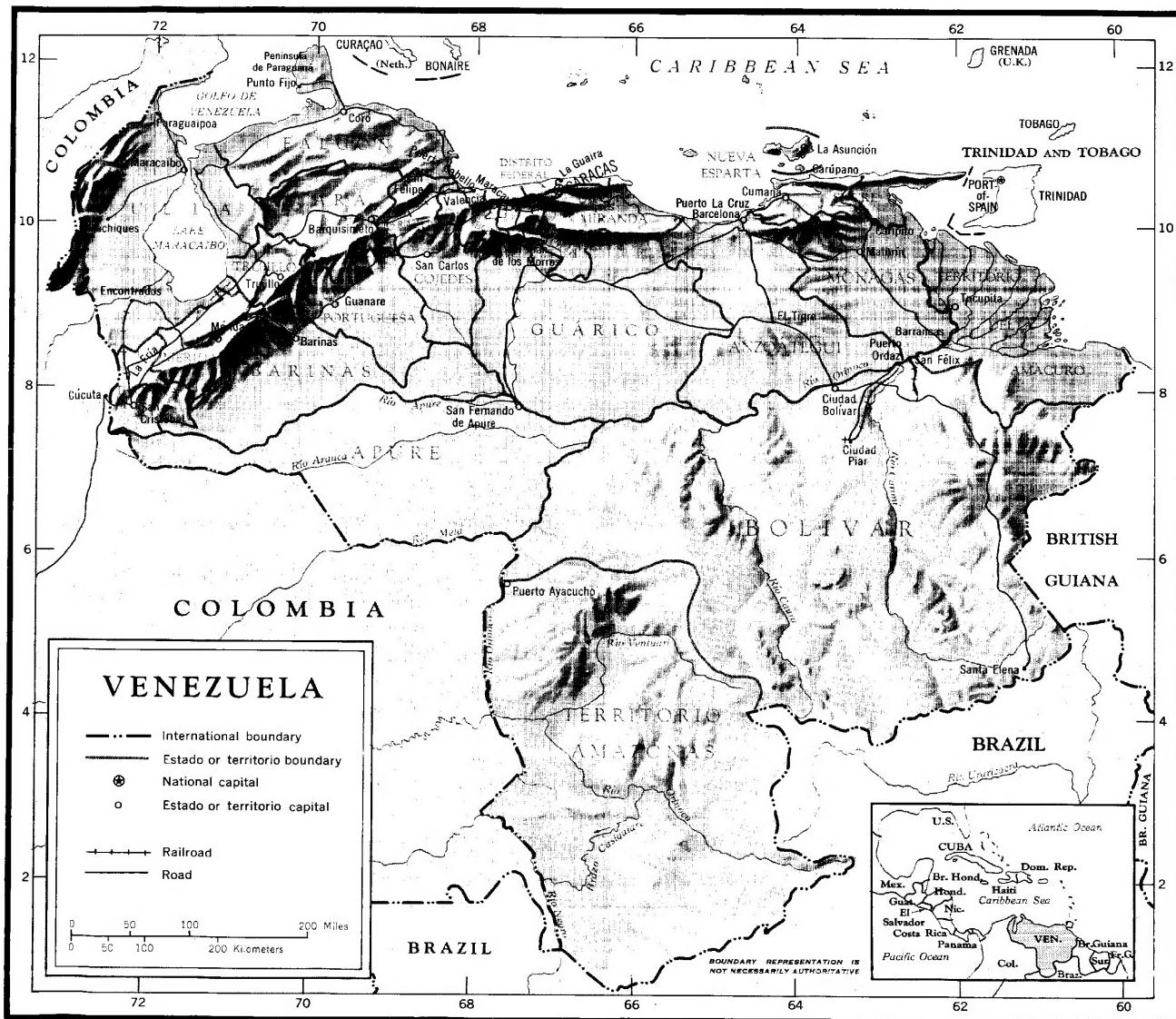
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